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Miro (software)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Miro (formerly named **Democracy Player** or **DTV**)[3] is an audio, video player and Internet television application developed by the Participatory Culture Foundation. It runs on Microsoft Windows, Mac OS X, FreeBSD and GNU/Linux and supports most known video file formats. It offers both audio and video, some in HD quality.

Miro is free software, released under the terms of the GNU General Public License.[4]

Miro

Miro 3.5 running on Ubuntu, showing the Miro guide in the main window while playing a podcast.

Developer(s)	Participatory Culture Foundation
Initial release	21 February 2006 (0.8.0-rc4 = earliest known)
Stable release	6.0 (April 16, 2013; 12 months ago) [±][1]
Development status	Inactive
Written in	Python using GTK
Operating system	Windows, OS X, Linux
Size	**Windows**: 28.50 MB **OS X**: 15.28 MB **Linux**: 2.0 MB **Source code**: 9.28 MB
Available in	40 languages[2]
Type	Media player Internet television RSS+BitTorrent
License	GNU GPL (v1 and v2), BSD license
Website	getmiro.com

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Features [edit]

Miro can automatically download videos from RSS-based "channels", manage them and play them. The application is designed to mesh with other Participatory Culture Foundation (PCF) products such as Video Bomb, a social tagging video website, and the Channel Channel, a TV guide for Internet television.

Miro integrates an RSS news aggregator and podcatcher, a BitTorrent client (based on libtorrent), and a media player (VLC media player under Windows, QuickTime under Mac OS X, and xine media player or GStreamer under GNU/Linux and FreeBSD). Since 2.0, Miro supports the adding of website bookmarks under the "Sites" category; by default, *ClearBits.net* is preloaded in Miro as a bookmark.

Examples of supported video files are QuickTime, Windows Media Video (WMV), MPEG, Audio Video Interleave (AVI), XVID as a video player. It also supports RSS BitTorrent. When a new video is available, the program will notify and download if possible.

The Miro Video Converter converts video formats.[5] It is based on FFmpeg with profiles for the Theora (.ogv), .mp4, and WebM video formats supported by various devices.[6]

A developer of Miro wrote that the Windows installer installs proprietary commercial software such as browser add-ons, stating *"This is one of the primary ways we fund continued Miro development."*[7]

History [edit]

The application was first launched in 2005 as Democracy Player (sometimes abbreviated as DTV) and later on as Miro in 2007. Video searching of web-based video archives was included in 2007, with access to various archives changing over time.

Miro is mostly written in Python, although it links to various libraries written in a variety of languages. Versions through 2.x had an almost entirely HTML/CSS based UI. Miro uses embedded WebKit in a GTK window on Unix/Linux (Mozilla Gecko/XUL until 3.0.2), WebKit in a Cocoa window on OS X, and Mozilla in a XUL window on Windows. Since version 3.0, the OS X port uses Cocoa and others use GTK. The embedded web browser is used only for web pages.

Reception [edit]

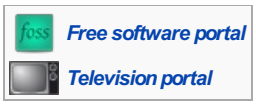
A link to download Miro and Mozilla Firefox appeared on the front page of The Pirate Bay in July 2009 underneath a

notice "We love free software."

Miro received a favorable review from Josh Quittner who wrote "I have seen the future of television and it's an application called Miro."[8] In May 2011, Seth Rosenblatt of CNET wrote, "Providing one-stop shopping for all your video and audio management desires, open-source and cross-platform Miro deserves much of the praise that's been heaped upon it."[9] The Softonic review gave the software a score of 9/10, and described the software as "a perfect example of how video content from different sources can be integrated into one single application and served directly to your PC in a fast, easy and elegant way."[10]

See also [edit]

- Broadcatching
- Peercasting
- Open Media Network



References [edit]

1. ^ *ftp.osuosl.org :: Oregon State University Open Source Lab* , 7 Oct 2012, retrieved 2013-01-04
2. ^ http://www.getmiro.com/download/features/index.php#openness
3. ^ Nicholas Reville (12 March 2007). "A Name Change" . Retrieved 3 September 2007.; Nicholas Reville (17 July 2007). "Announcing Miro" . Retrieved 3 September 2007.
4. ^ "Get Miro download page" . "...the software code, which is licensed under the GPL."
5. ^ Miro Video Converter
6. ^ "Miro Video Converter FFMPEG Conversion Matrix". Participatory Culture Foundation. 8 April 2011. Retrieved 11 October 2011.
7. ^ "Bug 15208 - Miro setup closes and restarts Firefox without notification" . Bugzilla. 2010-11-14.
8. ^ Quittner, Josh (13 November 2007). "The future of Internet TV" . *TechLand blog*. Fortune.CNN.com. Retrieved 27 October 2011. "I have seen the future of television and it's an application called called Miro."
9. ^ Rosenblatt, Seth (25 May 2011). "Miro - CNET Editors' review" . CNet.com. Retrieved 27 October 2011.
10. ^ Santos, Elena (25 July 2011). "Watch internet videos like you watch TV" . Softonic. Retrieved 27 October 2011.

External links [edit]

- Official website
- Democracy Player is dead, long live Miro - last100, July 17 2007
- CNET 5 Star Review 2009
- CNET Blog article on how to use Miro to automatically download the latest TV shows of your choice
- CNET Video Review of Democracy Player - Dated
- Groklaw interview with Nicholas Reville , February 2008

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v· t· e·	Media player software
	Freeware or free software
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Linux	Amarok · Baudline · Beep Media Player · cmus · Gnome Music Player Client · Helix · JuK · Kaffeine · LinuxMCE · **Miro** · Muine · Music Player Daemon · Music on Console · Nightingale · Noatun · Ogle DVD Player · Rhythmbox · Totem · Xine · XMMS · XMMS2 ·
Multi-platform	Amarok · Audacious · Banshee · Boxee · Clementine · DivX Player · Exaile · ffplay · iTunes · **Miro** · Mpg123 · MPlayer · Nightingale · Plex · QuickTime · RealPlayer · SMPlayer · Songbird · VLC media player · XBMC · Zinf ·
	Commercial or bundled
Microsoft Windows	Connect Player · Iriver plus 3 · JRiver Media Center · PowerDVD · TotalMedia Theatre · SonicStage · WinDVD · Windows Media Center · Windows Media Player · Yahoo! Music Jukebox ·
OS X	Centerstage · DVD Player · Front Row · Peel ·
Mobile	Pocket Tunes · CoreAVC CorePlayer · Core Pocket Media Player · doubleTwist · RealPlayer · TuneWiki · Winamp ·
	Lists
	Video players · Audio players · Portable media players · Personal video recorders ·

v· t· e·	BitTorrent
Companies	BitTorrent, Inc. · Vuze, Inc. ·
People	Eric Klinker · Bram Cohen · Ashwin Navin · Ross Cohen ·
Technology	Broadcatching · Distributed hash tables · DNA · index · Peer exchange · Protocol encryption · Super-seeding ·

Technology	Tracker · Vocabulary · Torrent file · µTP ·
Clients (comparison, usage share)	BitTorrent (original client) · BitComet · BitSpirit · BitTornado · Deluge · FrostWire · KTorrent · LimeWire · **Miro** · MLDonkey · qBittorrent · rTorrent · Shareaza · Transmission · Tribler · µTorrent · Vuze (formerly Azureus) · Xunlei · libtorrent (library) ·
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Open Trackers	OpenBitTorrent · PublicBitTorrent ·
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Categories: Internet television software | Free media players | Windows media players | Linux media players | OS X media players | Free BitTorrent clients | Free software programmed in Python | 2006 software | Podcasting software | Video software that uses GTK+ | File sharing software that uses GTK+ | BitTorrent clients for Linux

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